

Remarks

Claims 20-29 and 51-53 are canceled herein as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the claims in a divisional application. Claim 1, 3, 9 and 13 are amended herein to incorporate limitations recited in claim 54.

No new matter is added herein. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter and Summary of Examiner Interviews

Claims 48-50, 58 and 59 are noted to be allowable on the first and last page of the final Office action. However, claims 48-50 were included in the rejection asserted under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The undersigned contacted Examiner Kaushal on October 14, 2009 to discuss the allowable subject matter. The Examiner confirmed that claims 48-50, 58 and 59 were allowed, and that claims 48-50 should not have been listed in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Amendments to the claims to place them in condition for allowance were also discussed during the interview of October 15, 2009. Applicants thank the Examiner for the helpful telephone interviews with their undersigned representative.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 1-16 and 54-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Vasa et al., (Circ. Res. 89(1):E1-7, 2001, "A"), Vasa et al. (Circulation 103(24): 2885-90, 2001) and Scott et al. (Circulation 104: 491-496, 2001). Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection for the reasons of record. However, it is the Applicants understanding the amendment of the claims renders this rejection moot.

Request for Additional Interview

Applicants have made every effort to place the present application in condition for allowance. If any matters remain to be discussed before a Notice of Allowance is issued, Examiner Kaushal is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned for a telephone interview at the telephone number listed below.

Conclusion

Applicants believe the present application is ready for allowance, which action is requested. A written request for an interview is provided in this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 595-5300
Facsimile: (503) 595-5301

By



Susan Alpert Siegel, Ph.D.
Registration No. 43,121